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Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the specification below the title:**

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 08/909,488, filed August 12, 1997, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,763,262, filed April 3, 1992, which was a file wrapper continuation of U.S. Application No. 07/528,050, filed June 25, 1990 (abandoned), which is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 06/909,020, filed September 18, 1986.

**In the claims:**

Please delete claims 1-25.

Please add the following new claim.

26. (New) In an immunoassay device having a housing with at least one opening therethrough for introduction of a liquid sample into the housing and at least one immunological reagent in dried form in said housing, the improvement comprising:

a desiccant material in said housing, wherein said desiccant is capable of retarding deterioration of said reagent.